

Elder Care Advocacy of Florida



Repaying the "Greatest Generation" with Care

Scott Nystrom, Executive Director
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This civilized society is still struggling, even today, to recognize and to place the proper value on elders forced to spend their remaining days in our Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities. Although, we, as a nation before the world, are acutely reminded by recent events, of the horrific deaths that so graphically presented themselves during the coverage of the disastrous hurricane issues.

For decades, Seniors (and their loved ones) have raised concerns regarding the professional level of care by the nursing home industry. Staffing levels, nutrition, hydration, prescribed turning to avoid the problems of bed sores, and in general the absence of acceptable core levels of training. While much of these concerns are dismissed as being of frivolous in nature by the industry, the fact remains that these are serious issues. Certainly, the WHCoA is not able to reform an entire industry. However, a resolution issued that proclaims that these elders, many of whom helped build this great Nation of ours, deserve the dignity and respect, as a fellow citizen, that all Americans of the "Greatest Generation" have earned.

All municipalities have emergency plans. All Nursing Homes and ALF's should also have emergency plans. These emergency plans must be activated upon notification by emergency managers. The facilities must be registered with the emergency management offices and required to act in accordance with orders furnished. Diligent safeguards must be maintained before, during, and after any evacuation order is given. Abdication of responsibilities is not available as an option. Care for the frail elderly must be professionally accomplished as human considerations require.

Mr. Nystrom, it is felt that our great Nation is ready for such a WHCoA compassionate resolution. I look forward to great discussion.

Austin R. Curry, Executive Director
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